

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 03241 101026Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

SAJ-01 /069 W

-----101028Z 122427 /11

R 101008Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9147

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 3241

FOL MSG FROM UDORN SENT ACTION BANGKOK INFO VIENTIANE 10 FEB  
IS REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 0036

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, TH, LA

SUBJECT: THAI/LAO EXCHANGE FIRE AT SRI CHIANG MAI

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 0267 (B) VIENTIANE 0269 (C) UDORN 0029

1. CONREP VISITED SRI CHIANG MAI DISTRICT FEB 9  
IN CONNECTION WITH SHOOTING INCIDENT REPORTED REFTELS A & B.  
HE REPORTS THAT DISTRICT OFFICIALS THERE MAINTAIN THAT THAI  
SECURITY FORCES OPENED FIRE ON THREE LAOTIAN SOLDIERS ONLY  
AFTER BULLETS FIRED AT FLEEING REFUGEES BY SOLDIERS STRUCK  
DISTRICT IMMIGRATION OFFICE AND MARINE POLICE UNIT BUILDING.  
ACCORDING TO DISTRICT OFFICIALS THAIS DID NOT USE HEAVY  
WEAPONS IN EXCHANGE, LIMITING THEIR RESPONSE TO INDIVIDUAL  
WEAPONS ONLY.

2. CONREP STATED THAT BY EARLY AFTERNOON AN ESTIMATED  
100 BPP TROOPERS, SUPPLEMENTED BY PROVINCIAL POLICE,  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 03241 101026Z

MARINE POLICE, VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS, AND MROU PATROL BOATS  
HAD ASSEMBLED AT SCENE OF INCIDENT. JOINING THEM WAS  
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF NONG KHAI SOMBOON CHAIWACHARAMAS  
(GOVERNOR OF NONG KHAI CHAMNAN POTCHANA WAS OUT OF  
PROVINCE ATTENDING VILLAGE SCOUT SEMINAR IN KHON KAEN).  
CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORTS, CONREP OBSERVED NO THAI ARTILLERY  
UNITS BROUGHT INTO SRI CHIANG MAI TO SUPPORT THAI SECURITY

PERSONNEL.

3. CONREP SAYS THAT AFTER REMOVAL OF LAO SOLDIERS FROM SANDBANK IN MEKONG AT APPROXIMATELY 1619H SITUATION IN SRI CHIANG MAI RETURNED TO NORMAL. NO CASUALTIES AMONG THAI PERSONNEL REPORTED.

4. COMMENT: AS NOTED REFTEL C CURRENT SITUATION ALONG THAI/LAO BORDER IS SUCH THAT IT WOULD NOT TAKE MUCH MISCALCULATION BY EITHER SIDE TO PRODUCE A MAJOR INCIDENT THAT COULD HAVE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR FUTURE THAI/LAO RELATIONS, ALREADY AT A LOW EBB. FORTUNATELY, COOL HEADS PREVAILED DURING YESTERDAY'S CLASH. HOWEVER, THAI/LAO AUTHORITIES MAY PAY STEEP PRICE IF THEY CONTINUE TO IGNORE DANGER SIGNS OF POOR BORDER RELATIONSHIP.  
FINNEY

UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BORDER INCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BANGKO03241  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770047-1038  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770256/aaaabxac.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 336074c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 VIENTIANE 267, 77 VIENTIANE 269, 77 UDORN 29  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3358484  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI/LAO EXCHANGE FIRE AT SRI CHIANG MAI  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, TH, LA  
**To:** n/a  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/336074c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009